The Review Conference attended by 144 States Parties of the BTWC, held in November-December 2001 in Geneva, was unable to resolve the issue and was adjourned till November, 2002 when it would reconvene to resume its work.

India supports efforts aimed at strengthening the BTWC. India alongwith the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has regretted the rejection of the draft Protocol. NAM has also emphasised the continued validity of the mandate given to the Ad hoc Group, and underlined that the BTWC needs to be strengthened through a non-discriminatory legally-binding instrument to be negotiated multilaterally within the framework of the Convention.

Long term labour intensive industrial development Plan

3901. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating a long terms labour intensive industrial development plan for reducing unemployment in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The strategy for Employment generation is part of the five year plans. The approach to the Tenth Plan focusses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of the 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage the growth of employment. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential.